

REMARKS:

Claims 1-22 are currently pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 4-13, and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lee (U.S. Patent No. 6,336,986) ("*Lee*").

Claims 3 and 14-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Objections:

Claims 3 and 14-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of dependent claim 3, thus rendering claim 1 allowable. Claims 14-19 depend from amended independent claim 1, thus, Applicants submit that dependent claims 14-19 are also in condition for allowance at least by virtue of their depending from an allowable base claim.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):

Claims 1, 2, 4-13, and 20-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by *Lee*. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitations of dependent claim 3, which the Examiner has indicated forms an allowable independent claim, and dependent claim 3 has been cancelled. Dependent claims 2 and 4-13 depend from amended independent claim 1. Thus, Applicants submit that dependent claims 2 and 4-13 are also in condition for allowance at least by virtue of their depending from an allowable base claim.

Independent claims 20 and 22 and dependent claim 21 have been cancelled. Therefore the rejection of claims 20-22 is moot.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-13, and 20-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn and that claims 1, 2, and 4-13 be allowed.

Conclusion:

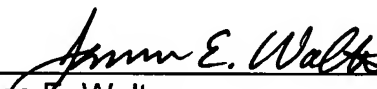
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

The undersigned hereby authorizes the Director to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayments, to **Deposit Account No. 502806**. If an extension of time is necessary for allowing the Amendment to be timely filed, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to the extent necessary. Any fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time should be charged to **Deposit Account No. 502806**.

Please link this application to Customer No. 38441, so that its status may be checked via the PAIR System.

Respectfully submitted,

3/20/07
Date



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